(c) The Government is not aware.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The dues claimed by the Tamil Nadu Mercantile Bank on Cardamom Marketing Corporation is Rs. 3.02 crore. No other information about financial dues on Cardamom Marketing Corporation is available.

(f) Cardamom auctions are being conducted everyday of the week in the cardamom growing areas of Southern Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

Discussions during visit of UK Commerce Minister

1655. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently the Minister of Commerce, UK visited India;

(b) if so, the issues discussed between the two countries;

(c) whether India raised the issue of definition of 'whisky' by UK because when Indian whisky is exported to UK, it is termed as rum or gin and not as whisky and thereby creating a lot of problems for the exporters; and

(d) the details of the non-tariff barriers faced by the Indian exporters in UK market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Minister of State for Trade of the United Kingdom (UK), Mr. Ian Pearson, MP, visited India in January 2006.

(b) and (c) Both the Ministers discussed the need to further strengthen bilateral trade and economic cooperation between India and the United Kingdom (UK) especially in the services sector. Issues pertaining to classification of Indian whisky as whisky for market access purpose and market access of alcoholic beverages to India were also referred to.

(d) The non-tariff barriers faced by the Indian exporters in UK market *inter-alia* include administrative and procedural matters, various higher Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (SPS) in the food/agricultural products, issues etc. These are highlighted in bilateral discussions with the Government of UK and also the European Commission at various levels.